CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:

receiving image data at a digital video camera;

an encoder of the digital video camera compressing the image data into an encoded information stream capable of carrying at least 8.5 frames/second in which no frame depends on a previous frame by performing intra frame encoding; and

transmitting the encoded information stream from the digital video camera to a computer system via a Universal Serial Bus (USB) while consuming no more than approximately 4 Mbits/second of USB bandwidth.

- The method of claim 1, wherein the compression of the image data includes
 performing spatial prediction, using customizable quantization, and using fixedlength symbols.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the compression of the image data provides near-lossless compression.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the compression of the image data uses

 Differential Pulse Code Modulation (DPCM).
- 5. An apparatus, comprising:

a receiver to receive image data;

an encoder, coupled to the receiver, to compress the image data into an encoded information stream capable of carrying at least 8.5 frames/second in which

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- no frame depends on a previous frame by performing intra frame encoding; and
- a transmitter, coupled to the encoder and the receiver, to transmit the encoded information stream from the digital video camera to a computer system via a Universal Serial Bus (USB) while consuming no more than approximately 4 Mbits/second of USB bandwidth.
- 6. The apparatus of claim 5, further comprises customizable quantization and fixed-length symbols to perform spatial prediction to compress the image data.
- 7. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the compression of the image data provides near-lossless compression.
- 8. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the compression of the image data uses

 Differential Pulse Code Modulation (DPCM).
- 9. A system, comprising:
 - a digital video camera having an encoder and a transmitter, the digital video camera to receive image data;
 - the encoder to compress the image data into an encoded information stream capable of carrying at least 8.5 frames/second in which no frame depends on a previous frame by performing intra frame encoding; and

the transmitter to transmit the encoded information stream from the digital video

camera to a computer system via a Universal Serial Bus (USB) while consuming no more than approximately 4 Mbits/second of USB bandwidth.

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- 10. The system of claim 9, further comprises customizable quantization and fixed-length symbols to perform spatial prediction to compress the image data.
- 11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the compression of the image data provides near-lossless compression.
- 12. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the compression of the image data uses

 Differential Pulse Code Modulation (DPCM).

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